

Appn. No. 09/752,037  
Amendment dated December 22, 2004  
Reply to Office Action mailed September 22, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims** (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

- 1        1. (Original) A method of handling a call from a caller to a communication device, the method comprising:
  - 3        receiving the call;
  - 4        determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and
  - 5        if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the call if a privacy mode code is entered by the caller.
- 1        2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the call to a message system if no privacy mode code is entered by the caller.
- 1        3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the privacy mode code is selected by a user of the communication device.
- 1        4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.
- 1        5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed by one of: a base station and a switch.
- 1        6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of receiving a request from the communication device to place the communication device in the privacy mode.

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1        7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the request further  
2 comprises:

3        a privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication  
4        device and adapted to be provided to the caller prior to completing  
5        the call; and

6        the privacy mode code selected by the user of the communication  
7        device.

1        8. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of  
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the  
3 communication device out of the privacy mode.

1        9. (Original) A method of handling a call from a caller to a  
2 communication device, the method comprising:

3        receiving the call;  
4        determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and  
5        if the communication device is in the privacy mode, providing a  
6        privacy mode message including a selected privacy override code to  
7        the caller.

1        10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising if the  
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the call if the  
3 selected privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1        11. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising if the  
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the call to a message  
3 system if no selected privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1        12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy mode  
2 message is selected from a group of prerecorded messages.

1        13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy mode

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2 message is recorded by a user of the communication device.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy override  
2 code is selected by a user of the communication device.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the communication  
2 device is a cellular telephone or a personal digital assistant.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the method is  
2 performed by a base station or a switch.

1 17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of  
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the  
3 communication device in the privacy mode.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the request further  
2 comprises:

3 the privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication  
4 device and adapted to be provided to the caller upon receiving the call; and  
5 the privacy override code selected by the user of the communication  
6 device.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of  
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the  
3 communication device out of the privacy mode.

1 20. (Original) A computer readable medium having instructions for  
2 causing a computer to perform a method of handling a call from a caller to a  
3 communication device, the method comprising:

4 receiving the call;  
5 determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and  
6 if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the  
7 call if a predetermined code is entered by the caller.

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1        21. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 20, further  
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the  
3 call to a message system if no predetermined code is entered by the caller.

1        22. (Original) A computer readable medium having instructions for  
2 causing a computer to perform a method of handling a call from a caller to a  
3 communication device, the method comprising:

4            receiving the call;  
5            determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and  
6            if the communication device is in the privacy mode, providing a  
7            privacy mode message including a selected privacy override code to  
8            the caller.

1        23. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 22, further  
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing  
3 the call if the privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1        24. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 22, further  
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the  
3 call to a message system if no privacy override code is entered by the  
4 caller.

1        25. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2 a communication device, the system comprising:  
3            a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the  
4            communication device to enter a privacy mode;  
5            a memory capable of storing a privacy mode message, the privacy  
6            mode message adapted to be provided to the caller prior to  
7            completing the call to the user; and  
8            a receiver capable of completing the call to the user if a privacy mode  
9            code is entered by the caller.

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1        26. (Original) The system of claim 25, further wherein the receiver is  
2 capable of routing the call to a message system if no privacy mode code is  
3 entered by the caller.

1        27. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the data entry device  
2 is a telephone keypad.

1        28. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the privacy mode  
2 code comprises at least one keystroke from the data entry device.

1        29. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the privacy mode  
2 code is selected by the user of the communication device.

1        30. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the communication  
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.

1        31. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2 a communication device, the system comprising:  
3            a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the  
4            communication device to enter a privacy mode; and  
5            a memory capable of providing a privacy mode message including a  
6            selected privacy override code to the caller prior to completing the  
7            call to the user.

1        32. (Original) The system of claim 31, further comprising a receiver  
2 capable of completing the call to the user if the selected privacy override  
3 code is entered by the caller.

1        33. (Original) The system of claim 32, further wherein the receiver is  
2 capable of routing the call to a message system if no selected privacy  
3 override code is entered by the caller.

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1       34. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the selected privacy  
2 override code is provided by the user of the communication device.

1       35. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2 a communication device, the system comprising:

3            a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the  
4            communication device to enter a privacy mode; and  
5            a receiver capable of receiving the call to the communication device  
6            and completing the call to the user only if an interrupt is received  
7            from the caller.

1       36. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the interrupt is a  
2 privacy mode code entered by the caller.

1       37. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2 a communication device, the system comprising:

3            a receiver capable of receiving the call and a privacy mode code  
4            entered by the caller;  
5            a memory capable of storing a status indicating if the communication  
6            device is in a privacy mode; and  
7            a transmitter capable of completing the call to the user if the  
8            communication device is in the privacy mode and the privacy mode  
9            code is entered by the caller.

1       38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the memory is further  
2 capable of storing a message from the caller if the communication device is  
3 in the privacy mode and no privacy mode code is entered by the caller.

1       39. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the memory is further  
2 capable of storing a privacy mode message adapted to be provided to the  
3 caller prior to completing the call to the user.

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1        40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 37, wherein the  
2 receiver is further capable of receiving a request from the communication  
3 device to place the communication device in the privacy mode.

1        41. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the request further  
2 comprises:

3            a privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication  
4            device and adapted to be provided to the caller prior to completing  
5            the call to the user; and  
6            the privacy mode code selected by the user of the communication  
7            device.

1        42. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein the receiver is  
2 further capable of receiving a request from the communication device to  
3 place the communication device out of the privacy mode.

1        43. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the communication  
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.

1        44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, passing the  
3 call to a voice messaging system if the privacy mode code is not entered by  
5 the caller, the voice messaging system being capable of recording a message  
6 spoken by the caller making the call.

1        45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, blocking  
3 completion of the call until the privacy mode code is entered.

1        46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing  
3 the communication device from producing an incoming call signal if the

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4 privacy mode code is not entered by the caller.

1 47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing  
3 the communication device from producing an incoming call signal for all  
4 calls for which the caller does not enter the privacy mode code.

1 48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, requiring  
3 entry of the privacy mode code by the caller before the communication  
4 device produces an incoming call signal.

1 49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising establishing for the communications device a normal mode of  
3 operation and the privacy mode of operation.

1 50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the  
2 normal mode of operation is characterized by producing an incoming call  
3 signal upon receipt of the call, and the privacy mode is characterized by  
4 producing the incoming call signal only if the caller has entered the privacy  
5 mode code.

1 51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, announcing  
3 the privacy mode code to the caller.

1 52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the step  
2 of providing a privacy mode message including a selected privacy override  
3 code to the caller further comprises announcing the privacy code to the  
4 caller.

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1        53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further  
2        comprising the step of receiving a spoken command from a user of the  
3        communication device to place the communication device in the  
4        privacy mode.

1        54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2        comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing  
3        the communication device from producing an incoming call signal if the  
4        privacy mode code is not entered by the caller while providing information  
5        regarding the incoming call through a display on the communication device.